

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Where claims have been amended, deletions are indicated by ~~striketrough~~ or double brackets [[]], and additions are indicated by underlining:

In the claims:

1. (Previously Presented): A delivery catheter for a gastric reduction system, the delivery catheter comprising:

an elongate torqueable and flexible tube having a back end and a front end;

a needle translatably disposed within the tube, with the needle having a penetrating tip;

at least one anchor translatably disposed within the needle, and moveable out of the penetrating tip of the needle; and

a coil on a front end of a shaft that is translatably disposed within a lumen in said tube, said coil being extendible out of the front end of the tube.

2. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 1, wherein the tube is formed of a braided wire.

3. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 1, wherein the tube contains a plurality of slots disposed substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the tube.

4. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 3, wherein the slots are formed in a sinusoidal pattern.

5. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 3, wherein the slot density is increased near a distal end of the tube.

6. (Cancelled).

7. (Cancelled).

8. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 1, wherein the coil includes a sharpened distal tip to facilitate tissue penetration.

9. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 1, wherein the coil comprises a plurality of coils that form a central opening for the passage of the needle.

10. (Previously Presented): The delivery catheter of claim 1, wherein the coil and needle are substantially coaxial.

11. (Cancelled).

12. (Original) The delivery catheter of claim 1, further comprising a push rod translatably disposed within the needle and adapted to push the anchor out of a distal end of the needle.

13-45. (Cancelled).

46. (Previously Presented): A catheter comprising:
a flexible tube having a front end and a back end;
a needle within the tube and having a tip extendible out of the front end of the tube;
at least one anchor positioned within the flexible tube and moveable out of the flexible tube during a surgical procedure;
a suture connected to one or more of the anchors, and with the suture extending within the tube towards the back end of the tube; and
a coil on a front end of a shaft that is translatably disposed within a lumen in said tube, said coil being extendible out of the front end of the tube.

47. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 46 wherein the tube is torqueable and is formed of braided wire.

48. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 46 wherein the tube contains a plurality of slots extending substantially perpendicular to a longitudinal axis of the tube, to increase the flexibility of the tube.

49. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 46, wherein said coil has a sharp tip.

50. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 49 with the needle having a penetrating tip adjacent to the front end of the flexible tube.

51. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 49 with the needle positioned to extend out of the front end of the flexible tube and through the coil.

52. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 46 further comprising a push rod longitudinally moveable within the needle for pushing one or more anchors out of the tip of the needle.

53. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 46 with the needle having a non-coring tip.

54. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 46 with the tube having a coating of fluorine resins.

55. (Previously Presented): A catheter comprising:
a flexible and torqueable tube having a front end and a back end;
a needle within the tube and having a piercing tip extendible out of the front end of the tube;

one or more anchors stored within the tube and moveable out of the tube for placement during a surgical procedure:

a suture connected to the anchor and leading out towards the back end of the tube;
and

a coil on a front end of a shaft that is translatably disposed within a lumen in said tube, said coil being extendible out of the front end of the tube.

56. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 55 wherein the tube having through slots to increase the flexibility of the tube.

57. (Cancelled).

58. (Previously Presented): The catheter of claim 55 further comprising a push rod longitudinally moveable within the needle for pushing an anchor out of the tip of the needle.

59. (Previously Presented): A catheter comprising:
a flexible and torqueable tube having a front end and a back end;
a handle attached adjacent to the back end of the tube;
a hollow needle within the tube and having a piercing tip extendible out of the front end of the tube;

one or more anchors within the needle, with the anchor moveable out of the piercing tip of the needle;

an anchor ejector within the needle;
a suture connected to the anchor and leading out towards the handle;
a needle control on the handle linked to the needle, for moving the needle within the tube;

an anchor ejector control on the handle linked to the anchor ejector; and
a coil on a front end of a shaft that is translatably disposed within a lumen in said tube, said coil being extendible out of the front end of the tube.

60. (Previously Presented): A catheter comprising:
a flexible tube having a front end and a back end;
a needle within the tube and having a tip extendible out of the front end of the tube;
at least one anchor positioned within the needle and moveable out of the needle tip during a surgical procedure;
a suture connected to one or more of the anchors, and with the suture extending within the tube towards the back end of the tube; and
a coil on a front end of a shaft that is translatably disposed within a lumen in said tube, said coil being extendible out of the front end of the tube.